

Action plan for reinforcing Slovakia's administrative and judicial capacity**Overview table**

AP Priorities related to strengthening administrative / judicial capacity	Implementation by X-land: commitments taken in negotiations / measures for implementation	Community Assistance: ongoing / planned in programming for 2002	Monitoring actions: ongoing / required
1. Political criteria			
1.1 Democracy and the rule of law			
<p>Priority 1:</p> <p>Ensure implementation of the civil service law; continue implementation of the public administration reform strategy, devoting due attention to the issues of training and remuneration.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>The administrative capacity should be improved by the Act on State Service and the Act on Public Service. (CONF-SK87/01).</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>As of 1 January 2002, the Civil Service Office has been established. As approved by the Slovak Government the number of staff will reach 62 persons in 2002.</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>Support to the National Programme for Decentralisation and Reform of the Public Administration of the Slovak Republic (SR9913.05) - € 1.3 million</p>	
<p>Priority 2:</p> <p>Continue to strengthen the independence and the efficiency of the judiciary; devote particular attention to the training system for judges; ensure the provision of equipment and</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>No specific commitments</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>Programme on justice and home affairs – Strengthening of the judiciary (SR9908.01) - €5 million</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>JHA expert mission of February 2001.</p>

administrative	staff.	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>Introduction of case management system</p>	<p>Programme on justice and home affairs – Institution building for the Ministry of Justice and the judiciary; (SR9809.01)</p> <p>Programme on justice and home affairs – Strengthening the independence of the judiciary (SR0108) - € 1 million</p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Modernisation of courts</p> <p><i>Supplementary :</i></p> <p>Further actions with regard to the strengthening and the independence of the judiciary, notably through support to the Judicial Council</p>	
Priority 3:	Ensure the accountability and transparency of the investigation procedures.	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>The existing overlaps between the functions of the police authorities and police investigators will be dealt with in the re-codification of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CONF-SK87/01).</p> <p>Measures for implementation:</p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>The re-codification amendment to the Code of Criminal Procedure is</p>	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Strengthening the co-ordination between law enforcement agencies</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>JHA expert mission of February 2001.</p>

	supposed to implement the above-mentioned commitments (expected approval by the Parliament by the end of June 2002 at the latest).		
<p>Priority 4:</p> <p>Step up the fight against corruption and economic crime, in particular ensure the timely and effective implementation of the Action Plan to Combat Corruption</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p><i>Not applicable</i></p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>Key document for the Slovak Government in this area is the NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION. The Government developed the Programme in co-operation with non-governmental organisations (TIS). The Programme has 3 main pillars: elimination of the situations where corruption can potentially occur, increasing the risk resulting from corrupt practices, enhancing public sensitivity to corruption.</p> <p>The document ensuring practical implementation of the National Programme is the ACTION PLAN OF THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION. The Action Plan sets out 1,684 concrete tasks for all public administration bodies. The Slovak government</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>SK008.01: Support to the implementation of the National Programme of Fight against Corruption (€ 5,5 million)</p> <p><i>Supplementary:</i></p> <p>Further support for implementing the National Programme</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>JHA expert mission of February 2001</p>

	<p>recommended the institutions that are outside of the executive branch (NGOs) to also carry out certain activities in the fight against corruption. Following a number of meetings between the representatives of various sectors, experts and members of the Central Anticorruption Unit, the rate of completion was established at 51.5%, i.e. 869 of 1,684 tasks.</p> <p>The latest questionnaire survey of the perception of corruption and people's experience with corruption, shows that key indicators of the occurrence of corruption in Slovakia post a clear downward trend.</p> <p>It is a very positive fact that in 2001 there has been a decline in the perception of corruption in the <i>process of privatisation</i>, in the <i>banking sector</i> and in <i>private business</i>. Measures adopted to improve the business environment include macroeconomic stabilisation, restructuring of the banking sector, bankruptcy and composition law, public procurement law, reform of the lien legislation and tax reform, cadastral authorities reform, new module of granting procedures of licences, concessions and permits.</p>		
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	<p>Moderate decrease of corruption was attained due to improvements in the performance of state administration at <i>tax authorities</i>, labour and at <i>trade licence authorities</i>.</p> <p>Perception of corruption is high in the sectors that are more or less autonomous on state administration - judiciary, police and education. But also in this category we have achieved some successes: the upper sentencing rate for corruption issues was increased, case management, ombudsman, freedom of information act.</p> <p>The effectiveness of efforts at combating corruption has increased. This is evident from the improved capability to identify and prosecute corruption cases, to indict and eventually sentence persons convicted of corruption.</p> <p>In spite of the reduced level of corruption in the society, as indicated by relevant surveys and improved capability of law enforcement bodies to suppress corruption, this topic is increasingly important. This indicator also shows increasing public sensitivity to corruption.</p>		
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	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Anti-corruption Unite is at this time preparing several project: new funding of political parties and movements, regulation of interested groups entrance into decision making and legislation procedures, principles of legislative regulations of lobbying companies, donors tracking programme, ethics code for civil servants and journalists, measures to improve transparency in public procurement, co-operation with Ministry of Justice on Special Prosecutor Law, monitoring of National Programme implementation – Phare project, public awareness campaign. Establishment of the function of special prosecutor for fight against corruption and organised crime.</p>		
1.2 Human rights and the protection of minorities			

<p>Priority 1:</p> <p>Continue improving the situation of the Roma through strengthened implementation of the relevant strategy, including the provision of the necessary financial support at national and local levels; measures aimed at fighting against discrimination (including within the public administration), fostering employment opportunities, increasing access to education, improving housing conditions; provide adequate financial support.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>No specific commitments</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p>Continuation of improving the situation of the Roma by a complex programme for revitalisation of the Roma settlements that directly follows the lines created by Phare projects. (Competency of the SR Government Plenipotentiary for Roma Communities)</p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>One further person to be employed at the Office of Government (Section of Human Rights and Minorities) for EU-related work and Phare project management.</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>Minority tolerance programme (SR9905.01) - € 1.8 million</p> <p>Improvement of the situation of the Roma in the Slovak Republic (SK0002) - € 3.8 million</p> <p>Roma matters and Infrastructure for Roma settlements (SR0103.01 and SR0103.02) - € 10 million</p>	
<p>Priority 2:</p> <p>Ensure that an effective system for redressing police misconduct is established.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>Adoption of a Code of Ethics for police force members (CONF-SK87/01).</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>The Ministry of Interior, in</p>		<p><i>Ongoing::</i></p> <p>JHA expert mission of February 2001.</p>

	collaboration with the Police Force Presidium and the Police Force Academy, developed a Code of Ethics for police force members. Implementation ongoing.		
2. Economic criteria			
<p>Priority 1:</p> <p>Ensure medium-term sustainability of public finances by tackling expenditure reform, in particular of health and pension systems, and by continuing the reform of the public finance management system.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>No specific commitments</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>SK 0003.01 State Treasury Implementation - € 4 million</p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Strengthening the Institutional Framework and Administrative Capacity for Implementation of Social and Health Insurance Reform</p>	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Sub-Committee on Economic and Monetary issues, Capital Movements and Statistics, June 2002</p>
<p>Priority 2:</p> <p>Complete the financial sector restructuring and privatise the remaining state-owned banks and insurance company; ensure implementation of bad-debt recovery mechanisms.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>No specific commitments</p>	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Support for the Agency in charge of settlement of bad debts</p>	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Sub-Committee on Economic and Monetary issues, Capital Movements and Statistics, June 2002</p>
3. Ability to assume the obligations of membership			
3.1 Free movement of goods			
<p>Priority 1:</p> <p>Strengthen surveillance, oversight and complaint procedures and ensure implementation of the</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>(CONF-SK 62/00) The Public Procurement Office will reach 110</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>- SR99/IB-FI-04 for the establishment of an independent authority for public</p>	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Public Procurement Office currently not entitled to award</p>

acquis in the field of public procurement.	<p>employees by the end of 2001 - done</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>In 2001 the number of staff of the Public Procurement Office reached 111 employees, in the beginning of 2002 to be strengthened by further 5 persons.</p>	procurement € 0.85m	<p>damages; not all its decisions can be appealed to Court therefore:</p> <p>Monitoring of improvements to review system required.</p>
<p>Priority 2:</p> <p>Fully implement the law on technical requirements for products and on conformity assessment; fully align with and complete implementation of New Approach Directives; complete alignment and effective implementation in the sectors covered by product specific legislation, including the fields of pharmaceuticals and chemicals, automobiles, and foodstuffs.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>- General commitment on implementing the acquis by 1.01.04 (CONF – SK 62/00)</p> <p>Food safety:</p> <p>- Pre-market control for foodstuff will be phased out by 1 January 2002.(CONF-SK 10/01) - not yet done</p> <p>- Ministry of Agriculture is preparing Food Safety Strategy, which will be in line with the White Paper on Food Safety. (CONF-SK 10/01)</p> <p>Other sectors:</p> <p>(CONF-SK 62/00)</p> <p>- Slovak National Accreditation</p>	<p><i>Ongoing</i></p> <p>SR 9808.01 TA to harmonisation and Internal Market Legislation – € 0.6m</p> <p>SR 9907.01 Application of the Act on Technical Requirements for Products and on Conformity Assessment - €1.8 million</p> <p>SR 0004.01 Application of the Act on Technical Requirements for Products and on Conformity Assessment - € 1 million</p> <p>SK0104.01 Market Surveillance (market surveillance system in the food sector) - € 2.2 million</p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p>	<p><i>Ongoing :</i></p> <p>One general assessment mission on Chapter 1 and 7 done by FVO in Slovakia in November 2001</p> <p><i>Planned</i></p> <p>FVO mission on hygiene and control implementation (second half 2002)</p> <p><i>Additional monitoring required:</i></p> <p>Peer reviews</p>

	<p>Service will gain membership of MLA and subsequently a member of MLA IAF – partly done, see below</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Necessity to strengthen the resources of UNMS by three staff January 2002 and by another two in the course of 2002 –. - SUTN will apply for CEN/CENELEC regular membership in the year 2001 – done <p>(CONF-SK 1/01)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In March 2001 the SR will apply for full membership in CEN and CENELEC – done - 80% of the ENs implemented will be achieved till the end of 2001 – done - CEN and CENELEC membership could occur by the end of 2001 – expected by end 2002 - Commitment to improve the existing Technical Committees. - The independent status of the State Transport Office should gradually be legislated and the regulatory activities should be provided for and have their human resources strengthened till the end of 2002 – done - Centre for Chemical Substances and Preparations will be 	<p>For pharmaceuticals see under priority 3.</p> <p>Strengthening of the public health in relation to food safety</p>	<p>considered for administrative capacity on: (i) Rapid Alert System for Food; (ii) Novel Food (including GMO's)</p>
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	<p>established - done (CONF-SK 10/01)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A specialised authority (new combined State Transport Office and transferred regional and district authorities) will be established when the amendment to Act No. 315/1996 will enter into effect (2003). - Administrative structure for the implementation of Regulation 339/93 on control of goods imported from third countries will be set up by accession <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p>Food safety:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pre market control for foodstuff was abolished by the amendment to the Act on Foodstuff, which entered into force on 8 February 2002. Foodstuff for special purposes will have to be approved by the Ministry of Health till the end of 2002. <p><i>Ongoing/Planned</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reform of administrative capacity - Creation National Commission for Risk Management - Upgrading laboratories 		
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	<p>- Putting in place a Rapid Alert System for Foodstuffs</p> <p>Other sectors:</p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Slovak National Accreditation Service was accepted as a signatory of the EA multilateral agreement for calibration and testing laboratories at the 7th meeting of the EA General Assembly in Stockholm in June 2001) and has applied for membership in EA MLA in the category of certification bodies in 1st half of 2001 and undergone the audit of the EA in October 2001. The membership in this category is expected in 2002. - Further strengthening and developing Enquiry point is envisaged for 2003. - The SUTN will fulfil the duties arising from full membership in CEN and CENELEC. - Full implementation of the ENs will be achieved by the end of 2002. - The new prepared infrastructure of the State Transport Office (STO) is expected in 2003. The STO will gain 		
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	<p>the independence in 2004.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technical and administrative strengthening of the Centre for Chemical Substances and Preparations is envisaged for 2002 and 2003. - The inter-ministerial Food Safety Commission will be established in 2002. 		
<p>Priority 3:</p> <p>Upgrade to EC-level all market surveillance and conformity assessment structures, eliminate all previously mandatory certification; ensure effectiveness of implementing structures in all sectors, including as regards chemical substances; ensure a central procedure for authorisations for the placing of medicines on the market, as well as the procedure for mutual recognition of registrations.</p> <p><i>(see also Chapter 23 – Consumer and Health Protection)</i></p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>(CONF-SK 1/01) The Slovak Trade Inspection will take over responsibilities of the integrated market surveillance body for non-foodstuffs and services. For foodstuffs, plants and veterinary products a new market surveillance body will be established by the new law on 1 January 2002.</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Slovak Trade Inspection (STI) will take over responsibilities of the integrated market surveillance body for non-foodstuffs and services under the new Act on the Official Internal Market Surveillance for Consumer Protection entering into 	<p><i>Ongoing :</i></p> <p>SR 0104.01 - Support of Market Surveillance System in Consumer and Health Protection. - € 2.2 million</p> <p>For foodstuffs elements see also 3.7 Agriculture.</p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Project for alignment with and phasing in of EU authorisation for marketing procedures (centralised procedure, mutual recognition procedure) for pharmaceuticals</p>	

	<p>force in March 2002.</p> <p>2. For foodstuff and veterinary products a new market surveillance body – State Veterinary and Food Administration – has been established under the amendment to the Act on Foodstuff, which entered into force on 8th February 2002.</p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>1. STI will be strengthened during the years 2002 – 2004.</p>		
<p>Priority 4:</p> <p>Proceed with screening of Slovak legislation in the non-harmonised area to ensure it is in compliance with Articles 28-30 of the EC Treaty and complete administrative arrangements for the future monitoring in this area.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>(CONF-SK 62/00) Implementing unit is currently being set up.</p> <p>(CONF-SK 1/01) <i>Full compliance with Article 28 to 30 EC and related Community instruments by the date of accession. “</i></p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><u>Ongoing:</u></p> <p>1. The implementation of the inter-ministerial unit went through serious training organized by Berlin Institute of the European Studies as well as by UNMS through the</p>	<p><i>On-going:</i> A training seminar took place in June 2001</p> <p><i>Planned:</i> Bilateral seminar with Slovakia on the general application of the mutual recognition principle foreseen. Date to be established.</p> <p>Bilateral seminar with Slovakia on selected technical issues as required. Organisation of training visits for Slovak officials to the EU.</p>	<p><i>On-going:</i> Assessment by Commission services of implementing capacity launched in January 2002.</p>

	<p>PHARE twinning 1999 (with German and Austrian partners).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. The first stage of the screening on the national technical regulations on compliance with the Articles 28–30 of the Treaty has been accomplished in the first half of 2001 with the assistance of the APS PHARE consortium. 3. On the encouragement of the IMAC (Internal Market Advisory Committee), the first list of the Slovak experts belonging to the administrative arrangement for the monitoring of the proper functioning of the Internal Market as well as for the screening of the Slovak legislation in non-harmonized area was sent to Brussels in the first half of 2001. 4. Guide on European Commission on the application of Articles 28–30 of the Treaty has been translated and was submitted to the ministries concerned in the end of 2001. 5. The Office of the Government has prepared special legislative rules requiring screening all proposed new draft legislation for the compliance with the Treaty before submitting it to the Legislative Council of the Slovak Government. 6. The Department of the European 		
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	<p>Integration of UNMS has been strengthened to coordinate the inter-ministerial cooperation of the implementing unit.</p> <p>7. Slovakia expressed its wish to join the European exchange of information in the framework of directive 98/34/EC in the wording of Directive 98/48/EC on 15 January 2002.</p> <p>8. TBT WTO and SPS enquiry point is being prepared to enlarge its information exchange activities as stipulated in the Directive 98/34/EC in the wording of Directive 98/48/EC.</p> <p><u>Planned:</u></p> <p>1. The further strengthening of the European Integration Department of the UNMS is expected in the 2003.</p> <p>2. The inter-ministerial coordination unit will start to cooperate with the local governments to ensure the proper implementation of Directive 98/34/EC in the wording of Directive 98/48/EC in May 2002.</p> <p>3. The transposition of the Directive 98/34/EC in the wording 98/48/EC will be completed by July 2002 in the form of governmental ordinance.</p> <p>4. The second stage of the screening</p>		
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	of the Slovak legislation on the compliance with the Articles 28–30 will be finished by June 2003 with the purpose of identifying barriers to the free movement of goods in the non-harmonised area.		
3.2 Free movement of persons			
<p>Priority 1:</p> <p>Complete alignment of mutual recognition of professional qualifications and diplomas and introduce required administrative structures, education and training programmes.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>(CONF-SK 70/00) The already existing Centre for Equivalence of Diplomas shall be determined as the contact point for the general system directives.</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>(2001 NPAA): Strengthening the existing and/or creating new professional units responsible for access to regulated professions including the Centre for Equivalency of Education Documents that should be designated as the contact point and national co-ordinator for the general system directives.</p> <p>Increase of staff of the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health in this field by 4 persons (approved in Budget 2002)</p>	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Multi-country programme for mutual recognition of professional qualifications to provide for training to CC administrators in 2002:</p>	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>A series of workshops is planned which will review progress in transposition and implementation (including administrative capacity. Potential training needs are to be identified by mid-2002, following these workshops</p> <p>Evaluation visits (peer reviews) regarding the 6 health professions covered by specific Directives (doctors, general care nurses, midwives, dentists, vets, and pharmacists), to be</p>

			<p>concluded by June 2002, and possible additional actions afterwards (monitoring/technical assistance). While these peer reviews focus mainly on training requirements, these will also cover the structures of enforcement/implementation.</p> <p><i>Additional monitoring required:</i></p> <p>Need for enhanced monitoring particularly concerning lawyers/legal services</p>
<p>Priority 2:</p> <p>Reinforce the administrative structures for the co-ordination of social security.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>(CONF-SK 70/00): Slovakia is committed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - gradual development of human resources and technical equipment to the Social Insurance Agency; - prepare sound professional training of the staff of the Social Insurance 	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>SR 9913.04 Improved Labour Protection System in the Slovak Republic (Improvement of labour protection legislation and management) - € 1.2 million</p> <p>SR 9919 CONSENSUS III:</p>	<p><i>Additional monitoring required:</i></p> <p>Strengthening the Institutional Framework and Administrative Capacity for</p>

	<p>Agency, and of other institutions related to unemployment benefits, health insurance and family benefits;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - develop relevant administrative structures providing family benefits; - establish the Health Insurance Administration as a separate body administering the central register of insured persons. <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Ongoing</i></p> <p>(2001NPAA) Building the capabilities of local state administration authorities for handling family benefits; developing the system of unemployment benefit payment abroad; supporting the inter-ministerial co-ordination working group; improving technical and managerial skills of the Social Security Ministries employees; designating a liaison body for communication between Social Security institutions and between the benefit recipients and these institutions; continuing to build the Central Data Base of the Social Insurance Agency clients.</p>	<p>Classification of Occupations and preparation for participation in EURES network. Promoting employability of disabled people. Preparation of Slovakia's Participation on the Co-ordination of Social Security Schemes - € 2 million</p>	<p>Implementation of Social and Health Insurance Reform</p>
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3.3. Freedom to provide services			
<p>Priority 1:</p> <p>Complete alignment and implement directives on financial services legislation.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>(CONF-SK 40/00):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Banks: the Deposit Protection Fund has to be established - done - Insurance companies, investment services and securities markets: as of 1 October 2000, the Financial Market Office (FMO) has to be established to supervise insurance companies and capital markets. <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (Banks: the Deposit Protection Fund has been established from 1 July 1996) - (Insurance companies, investment services and securities markets: the FMO has been established from 1 November 2000) 	<p><i>Supplementary:</i></p> <p>Organisation of seminar for Slovakia experts on UCITS directive</p>	
<p>Priority 2:</p> <p>Reinforce supervision of financial services.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>(CONF-SK 40/00):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Banks: institutional arrangements in the banking sector will be strengthened in the future. - Insurance companies: Three institutions will have to be 	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Strengthening Financial Services Supervision in the banking sector</p>	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Peer review exercise in the financial services sector scheduled mid 2002 in Slovakia</p>

	<p>introduced on 1 January 2002: Office of the Insurers, Border Insurance Office and Central register of motor vehicles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investment services and securities markets: banking supervision is to be excluded from the National Bank of Slovakia powers and delegated to the FMO which is expected to have 100 employees. <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>(2001 NPAA):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Banks: on 31 May 2001, the Government decided that banking supervision would continue to be carried out by the National Bank of Slovakia until 30 September 2002. - Insurance companies: The Act on obligatory contractual insurance against liability, effective from 1 October 2001, requires the set up of the Insurers' Bureau and of a Central register of motor vehicles. - Insurance companies and securities markets: the FMO is expected to have 80 employees at the end of 2001 and to hire more staff in the coming years, notably 90 employees in 2002, 10 in 2003 as 		
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	well as in 2004.		
<p>Priority 3:</p> <p>Strengthen the administrative capacity of the data protection office.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>No specific commitments</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>(2001 NPAA): Requirement of 8 additional employees for the data protection Office in 2002.</p> <p>(In 2002, the administrative capacity of the data protection office has been already strengthened by 4 employees)</p> <p>Participation of Slovakia as an observer in meetings of the Data Protection Working Party</p>		<p><i>Additional monitoring required:</i></p> <p>Peer review required, involving MS supervisory authorities</p>
3.4 Free movement of capital			
<p>Priority 1: Strengthen and co-ordinate the supervisory institutions and procedures.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>No specific commitments</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p>(2001 NPAA: From 1.11.2000, the Financial Market Office performs capital markets and insurance company supervision, co-operates with the Ministry of Finance in the creation and implementation of financial</p>		<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Peer review exercise in the financial services sector scheduled mid 2002 in Slovakia</p>

	policy)		
	Establishing out of court redress procedure for the settlement of disputes between banks and customers for cross-border credit transfers (the organisational and financial aspects of its functioning as well as the appointment of the ombudsman)	<i>Planned:</i> Organise a seminar with speakers from complaint and redress schemes in Member States to answer practical questions from officials of the Accession Countries Organise working visits to the out-of-court redress schemes in the EU Member States.	
	Establishment of a sound and efficient payment infrastructure		<i>Planned:</i> „Peer Review“ organised in cooperation with the European Central Bank and the EU National Central Banks to assess the efficiency of the payment infrastructure and the implementation of oversight principles. First results available by May/June 2002 and final results by September/October 2002.
<i>Priority 2:</i>	<u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u>		

Complete alignment of legislation with the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering	CONF-SK 30/01 (Add. 2): The Financial Analytical Unit is involved when a financial institution identifies unusual business transaction.		
3.5 Company law			
<p>Priority 1:</p> <p>In need of particular urgent action: reinforce administrative capacity and the fight against counterfeiting especially by strengthening border controls. Intensify training for enforcement bodies including judges and prosecutors.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>CONF-SK 63/00:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complete development and strengthening the material; technical and human infrastructure of commercial registers; - Eight regional registers being merged into a centralised commercial register to be linked into one functional information network by the end of 2001 - done <p>CONF-SK 27/01:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional Court in Banska Bystrica to become specialised court to deal with intellectual and industrial property right cases as of 1 January 2001 - done <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>SR9913.01: Integrated Customs Strategy and Customs Information System (supply of IT equipment) – €3.1 million</p> <p>SR 98/1B-JH-04, Twinning Project "Legal advice, Commercial Law". (€0.3 m).</p>	<p><i>Additional monitoring required:</i></p> <p>Form to be determined.</p>

	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Industrial Property Office (in cooperation with the Netherlands) runs an educational project for judges, attorneys and other legal professionals as of June 2001. <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Slovak Customs Office will run a special training for its subordinated bodies on the Customs Act and the Act on the measures and procedures applicable to the Import, Export, and Re-Export of certain goods that infringe upon intellectual property rights (<i>see also chapter 25 customs</i>). - Strengthening of technical and human infrastructure for the collection of documents by the end of year 2002. - Centralised commercial register to be linked to the EBR project by the end of 2003. 		
<p>Priority 2:</p> <p>Enforce trademark, copyright and neighbouring rights legislation.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u> (CONF-SK 63/0):</p> <p>Slovakia declares administrative infrastructure already sufficient.</p>		<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Subcommittee 2 envisaged in the end of 2002.</p>

			Fact finding and monitoring mission possible in 2002
3.6 Competition policy			
Improve the administrative capacity of the State Aid Office; ensure the enforcement of the rules in anti-trust and state aid including the alignment of incompatible aid schemes; complete the state aid inventory and prepare the annual reports; increase awareness of the rules among all market participants and aid grantors; intensify the training of the judiciary in the competition field.	<u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u> (CONF-SK 71/01): Strengthening of the State Aid Office by 10 people in 2002. Measures for implementation: <i>Planned:</i> The State Aid Office to be united with the Antimonopoly Office as of 1 st May 2002; tenders for relevant positions already launched; the annual reports to be submitted in September 2002.	<i>Ongoing:</i> SR 9907.02 Establishment of the State Aid Monitoring Authority - € 0.8 million	<i>Ongoing / Planned:</i> Regular analysis of the enforcement practice, both in the field of anti-trust and State aid. The assessment was first carried out during 2001 (based inter alia on standard questionnaires, technical meetings and on-site visits), and is regularly updated.
3.7 Agriculture		<i>Supplementary:</i> The need for additional assistance in certain sectors (notably Border Inspection Posts and IACS) will be assessed on the basis of forthcoming monitoring activities, including peer reviews	
Priority 1: In need of particularly urgent action: Upgrade inspection arrangements, in particular complete	<u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u> Three Border Inspection Posts (BIPs) are foreseen in Slovakia: a railroad	<i>Ongoing:</i> SK 0005: Strengthening of Veterinary	<i>Planned:</i> Subcommittee 1 envisaged in the end

the establishment of the Border Inspection Posts at the future external borders in the veterinary and phytosanitary area.	<p>BIP in Cierna nad Tisou, a BIP in Bratislava Airport and a road BIP in Vyšné Nemecké. All three BIPs will be fully operating by the date of accession at the latest. (CONF-SK 93/01)</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Ongoing / Planned</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - construction of facilities for border inspection - 	and Phytosanitary Border Inspection Posts in Vysné Nemecké and Cierna nad Tisou - € 1 million	<p>of 2002 – the beginning of 2003</p> <p>Peer reviews on BIPs</p> <p><i>Additional monitoring required:</i></p> <p>Need for enhanced monitoring</p>
<p>Priority 2:</p> <p>Complete transposition of legislation on transmissible spongiform encephalopathies, plant passports, maximum residue levels, animal nutrition and ensure implementation and enforcement, including testing of animal diseases, in particular transmissible spongiform encephalopathies, in accordance with the acquis.</p>	<p><u>Measures for implementation</u></p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - establishing of laboratories for TSE testing - preparation of contingency plan for TSE - establishing of rendering plant for processing SRM - establishing of system for removal and collection of SRM 	<p><u>Ongoing:</u></p> <p><u>Planned:</u></p> <p>Institution building in the area of plant passports, registration of producers and export of plant and plant products.</p> <p>TSE - support to the development of legal framework and control measures</p>	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Subcommittee 1 envisaged in the end of 2002 – the beginning of 2003</p> <p>FVO missions (General assessment; TSE)</p>
<p>Priority 3:</p> <p>Up-grade the capacity of agricultural administration and complete preparations for the enforcement and practical application of the management mechanisms of the Common Agricultural Policy, in particular the Integrated</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>The Paying Agency will be merged (as of 1 January 2004) with the Intervention Agricultural Agency and the SAPARD Agency into a joint agency, which will be able to assume</p>	<p><i>Ongoing;</i></p> <p>SR 9909 – Preparation for the implementation of CAP; Harmonization of Legislation for Marking, Registration and Identification of Animals - € 4 million</p>	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Subcommittee 1 envisaged in the end of 2002 – the beginning of 2003</p>

Administration and Control System, the Paying Agency, quality and marketing standards and carcass classification, as well as for the implementation and enforcement of veterinary and phytosanitary and food safety legislation.	<p>all the functions of a Paying Agency of the EU type. A plan and a timetable for the establishment of the Paying Agency have been submitted to the EU. (CONF SK 74/01)</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (New unit at the Ministry of Agriculture – Paying Agency established in 2001. Implementation capacities strengthened). <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - strategic document for IACS implementation approved by SK Government in March 2003 - Implementation of (S) EUROP system for carcass classification, preparation of training for specialists - Completion of the vineyard register according to the EU requirements (as one of the IACS special registers) and subsequent creation of vineyard and wine production evidence. 	<p><i>Supplementary</i></p> <p>(s.a.):</p> <p>Development of Structures for Implementation of IACS (Integrated Administrative and Control System)</p>	<p>Fact finding and monitoring missions envisaged for 2002</p> <p><i>Additional monitoring required:</i></p> <p>Peer reviews / assessment missions may be used to follow up specific issues, including paying agencies, IACS, trade mechanisms, cereals intervention systems, sugar, fruit and vegetable producer organisations, fruit and vegetable marketing standards, wine, milk quotas and beef carcass classification/price reporting</p>
<p>Priority 4:</p> <p>Reinforce the administrative structures needed for the design, implementation, management,</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>Agri-environmental measures will be a part of rural development programmes</p>	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Support for Preparation of Rural Development Plan (in compliance with</p>	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Subcommittee 1 envisaged in the end</p>

monitoring, control and evaluation of EC funded rural development programs.	<p>upon accession and determination of less-favoured areas will be carried out according to the EC criteria. The necessary structures for programming and administration of programmes, including control and monitoring, will be built by the time of accession. Slovakia provided detailed plan and timetable for building up of administrative structures for rural development as a part of additional information. (CONF – document ??)</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - - Reinforcement of administration capacity for programming, control and monitoring. - Adoption of the agro-environmental programme by the Government 	<p>Council Regulation (EC) No 1257/1999)</p> <p>Support the development/ strengthening of legal and institutional framework for an adequate planning, implementation, administration, management, monitoring, control and evaluation of rural development measures.</p>	<p>of 2002 – the beginning of 2003</p>
<p>Priority 5:</p> <p>Continue the upgrading of food processing establishments so that they are in a position to respect EC food safety standards.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>Slovakia requested TP until December 2006 to achieve full harmonisation of hygienic parameters of production in processing establishments. Slovakia has also requested derogation for 46 diary establishments with limited capacity. (CONF – document)</p>		<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Subcommittee 1 envisaged in the end of 2002 – the beginning of 2003</p> <p>Peer review on establishments</p>

	<p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to create conditions for modernisation of food processing establishments according to the EU food safety standards; - to harmonize the official control of foodstuffs in the practice with the Council Directive 89/397/EEC, implementation through the Concept of the official control of foodstuffs in SR; - to implement the Directive 93/43/EEC on hygiene of foodstuffs in the practice through HACCP and the preparation of guides to good hygiene practices for SME (bilateral project with Netherlands, PPA01/SK/9/2A Development of good hygiene practices in the food industry); - to establish a new body for food safety – State Veterinary and Food Administration (in the line with the amendment of the Act No. 152/1995 Coll. on foodstuffs, date of entry into force on 8 February 2002; - to establish the National Contact Point for the Rapid Alert System for Foodstuffs; 		<p><i>Additional monitoring required:</i></p> <p>Need for enhanced monitoring</p>
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	- to implement the steps presented in the Slovak Food Safety Strategy and in the line with the EU policy presented in White Paper on Food Safety		
3.9 Transport Policy			
<p>Priority 1:</p> <p>Strengthen administrative/enforcement capacity in road transport (in particular on social legislation including financial standing requirements for access to profession, fiscal harmonisation and technical and safety standards with regard to weights and dimensions and electronic tachographs) and in railway transport with a view to implementing the revised railway acquis.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>The Slovak Republic accepts the acquis under the chapter „Transport policy,, as in force of 31 December 1999, and is prepared to fully implement it by 1 January 2004. (CONF-SK 42/00)</p> <p>The Slovak Republic confirms the acceptance of the new acquis under the chapter „Transport Policy,, as in force on 31 December 2000 and is prepared to fully implement it by 1 January 2004. (CONF-SK 60/01)</p> <p>This commitment implies, in terms of administrative capacity, in the various sectors the following:</p> <p><u>Road transport:</u> Establish the necessary administrative structures for the implementation of social, technical and safety legislation, in particular close supervision of respect of professional requirements</p>	<p><i>Ongoing</i></p> <p>SR0106 Rail Sector Harmonisation - € 0,5 million</p>	

	<p>(e.g. access to profession criteria, licenses) and of technical rules (e.g. tachographs, roadworthiness test).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - By 31 March 2003, the Slovak Republic will create a system for the monitoring of tariffs by state authorities as defined by Council Regulation 4058/89/EEC (CONF-SK 42/00) - By 31 December 2002, the Ministry will create personnel and technical conditions for the relevant units, which will participate in the implementation of EU legislation in the area of road transport in line with the elaborated and gradually updated plan for the sector's institutional reinforcement. Slovakia will also create personnel and technical conditions for other institutions which participate in the implementation of EU legislation on the area of road transport, especially the Police and National Labour Inspectorate. (CONF-SK 42/00) - By 31 March 2003, the Slovak Republic will create personnel and technical conditions for the State Transport Office (separate it from the Department of the Ministry of Transport, Posts and Telecommunications) to secure the 		
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	<p>full implementation of Council Directive 96/53/EC and Directives concerning type approval and conformity assessment of motor vehicles. (CONF-SK 42/00)</p> <p>By 31 December 2003, a „Central Register of Offences in Domestic and International Haulage and Bus Transport“ will be established with the aim of facilitating the implementation of the relevant acquis.</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (The Ministry has already prepared the draft Amendment to the Act 168/1996 on road transport through which the system for the monitoring of tariffs by state authorities as defined by Council Regulation 4058/89/EEC will be created (the Ministry will be the responsible authority). The Act is expected to come into effect on 1 July 2002). - Following the Government Resolution No. 702/2001, currently approx. 60 new employees are being recruited for the Police, National Labour Inspectorate and the Ministry – State Transport Office. 		
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	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Further recruiting the new staff is expected in 2003. Coordinating activities among relevant state bodies will result in setting up the rules necessary for creating the „Central Register of Offences in Domestic and International Haulage and Bus Transport. - The State Transport Office will reach independent status in 2004. The current position of the State Transport Office within the Ministry does not pose a threat for the New Approach principles. <p><u>Rail transport:</u></p> <p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>Set up the bodies needed to license railway-undertakings, certify railway safety, set infrastructure charges and allocate infrastructure capacity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - By 31 December 2001, the Slovak Republic will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – reinforce the personnel and equipment of the State Rail Office for the full implementation of Council Directives 95/19/EC and 95/18/EC, 		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – create personnel and technical conditions for the relevant units of the Ministry which participate in the implementation of EU legislation on the area of rail transport in line with the elaborated and gradually updated plan for the sector's institutional reinforcement within the framework of the integration process. (CONF-SK 42/00) - Full implementation of Council Directive 95/18/EC (including Directive 2001/13/EC) will be achieved on 1 January 2003, through a new Act on the Railways Regulatory Authority which will be established by transformation and strengthening the present State Rail Office. The Authority will be responsible, <i>inter alia</i>, for licensing, safety certification and supervision of the railway infrastructure capacity allocation. Directive 2001/14/EC, Directive 2001/12/EC will be fully implemented upon accession. (CONF-SK 47/01) - The transformation of ZSR will take place in several steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ZSR will continue to act as the 		
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	<p>state owned infrastructure manager, as of 1 January 2002;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - passenger and freight transport will be excluded from the current ZSR into a separate state-owned joint-stock company - Railway Joint-stock Company, as of 1 January 2002; - services and auxiliary activities at the current ZSR will be gradually privatised; - conditions for future entry of foreign direct capital will be created, - full privatisation of business activities in freight and passenger transport will be carried out until 2005. (CONF-SK 47/01) - By 1 January 2003, Slovakia will establish a regulatory authority through a new Act on the Railways Regulatory Authority, which will be responsible, <i>inter alia</i>, for licensing, safety certification and supervision of the railway infrastructure capacity allocation. (CONF-SK 94/01) - By 1 January 2004, Directive 2001/12/EC will be fully implemented by an amendment to Act No. 164/1996 on Railroads. (CONF-SK 94/01). 		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - By 1 January 2003, Slovakia will fully implement Directive 95/18/EC through a new Act on the Railways Regulatory Authority (CONF-SK 94/01). - By 30 June 2003 there will be completed the personnel and equipment of the Railways Regulatory Authority to implement Council Directive 95/18/EC, and Directives 2001/13/EC and 2001/14/EC, and personnel and technical conditions will be in place for the relevant units of the Ministry participating in the implementation of EU regulations on rail transport. (CONF-SK 94/01). - By 1 January 2004, Slovakia will fully implement Directive 2001/14/EC by an amendment to Act No. 258/1993 on Railways of the Slovak Republic. (CONF-SK 94/01). - For the time being, there is no notified authority to secure the implementation of the above Directive. It is anticipated that from 1 January 2003 the Railways Regulatory Authority will be the notified authority with the independent position within the state administration. (CONF-SK 		
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	<p>94/01).</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Following the Government Resolution No. 702/2001, currently 6 new employees are being recruited for the State Rail Office and 1 for the Ministry – Department of Railway Transport. - The split up of the former ZSR took place on 1 January 2002, consequently two independent companies were established - ZSR as the state owned infrastructure manager and state-owned Railway Joint-stock Company as the passenger and freight transport operator. - The Ministry is preparing Draft Act on the Railways Regulatory Authority. This authority will be responsible for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - licensing railway operators - safety certification including transport of dangerous goods, - interoperability issues, - supervision of the railway infrastructure capacity allocation. <p><i>Planned:</i></p>		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Further recruitment of new staff is expected in 2003. - The privatisation of the Railway Joint-stock Company will be launched in 2003. 		
<p>Priority 2:</p> <p>Ensure the setting up and the efficient operation of an independent aviation accident investigation authority</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>The Slovak Republic accepts the acquis under the chapter „Transport policy,,, as in force of 31 December 1999, and is prepared to fully implement it by 1 January 2004. (CONF-SK 42/00)</p> <p>This commitment implies, in terms of administrative capacity, the obligation to set up the Permanent independent investigation body for accidents</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p>Since February 2002, a permanent independent aviation accident investigation authority has been set up.</p>		
3.10 Taxation			
<p>Priority 1:</p> <p>Strengthen administrative capacities, including control and enforcement procedures, and</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>No specific commitments</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>SR 991302 on „enforcement of institutional and administrative</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>Sub-Committee on Customs and</p>

<p>administrative co-operation and mutual assistance</p>	<p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>The administrative capacity will be strengthened in 2002 by 213 persons, in particular customs authorities (108), tax authorities (30) and Tax Directorate (23).</p> <p>The reform of the Tax authority is ongoing and should be completed by 1 January 2004.</p>	<p>capacity,, and in particular improving indirect tax collection. - € 1.5 million</p> <p><u>Planned:</u></p> <p>Project in the field of international tax co-operation and reinforcement of administrative capacity.</p> <p>Reinforcement of Administrative Capacity of Tax Administration</p>	<p>Taxation January 2002</p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Administrative capacity assessment to take place during the second quarter of 2002</p> <p><i>Additional monitoring required:</i></p> <p>Need for enhanced monitoring</p>
<p>Priority 2:</p> <p>In need of particularly urgent action: Develop IT systems so as to allow for the exchange of electronic data with the Community and its Member States.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>The full establishment of the information system and its interconnection with the custom information system and other information systems of the public administration are to be accomplished by the end of 2003 (CONF SK 64/00).</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>Ensure the full functionality of the tax</p>	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>s. above mentioned project (under priority 1), which includes IT component</p>	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Peer review is being considered for the first half of 2002</p> <p><i>Additional monitoring required:</i></p> <p>Need for enhanced monitoring</p>

	information system, its interconnection with the customs administration information system and mutual compatibility with EC systems with control date June 2002		
3.12 Statistics			
Ensure adequate resources are available to further strengthen statistical capacities, including at regional level.	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>No specific commitment</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p>- (In line with the new law on state statistics, which entered into force on 1.1.2002, the Regional Statistical Offices were included into the Central Office, thus strengthening its administrative capacities. No new institution needs to be set up prior to accession.)</p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Reinforcement of the staff of the Statistical Office by 20 persons in the year 2002.</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>SR 99/IB/AG/04: Police advice on Approximation of EC Legislation and Training in carrying out Farm Structure Census - € 2 million</p> <p>SR 00/IB/ST/01 SMEs Census to Improve and Align Business Registers – € 0.5 million</p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Two projects for the administrative structure strengthening in the fields of regional and trade statistics (system INTRASTAT)</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>„Global assessment“ which comprises a very comprehensive description of the Slovak statistical system capacities achieved end of October 2001.</p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Annual monitoring missions</p> <p>Sub-Committee on Economic and Monetary issues, Capital Movements and Statistics, June 2002</p>
3.13 Social policy and employment			
<i>Priority 1:</i>	<u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u>	<i>Ongoing:</i>	<i>Ongoing:</i>

<p>Ensure proper implementation of the social <i>acquis</i>, in particular in the field of health and safety at work, as well as equal treatment for women and men. Strengthen the related administrative and enforcement structures, including the labour inspectorates. Adopt legislation against discrimination and develop a timetable for its implementation.</p>	<p>(CONF-SK 66/00) – establishment of the monitoring centre on racism and xenophobia during the pre-accession period</p> <p>(CONF-SK 20/01) – personnel enforcement at the labour inspectorates till the end of 2003 in further approximately 162 inspectors within limits of the state budget (since 1 January 2001 the number of systematized positions for labour inspectors increased by 38)</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Ongoing</i></p> <p>– increase of the number of labour inspectors (+27 staff in 2002) (approved in Budget 2002) Planned: NPPA 2001 – establishment of a liaison office or of a competent national body as required under the Posting of Workers Directive No. 96/71/EC–strengthening of the bodies of local state administration (+ 276 staff between 2003–2004) – establishment of a Centre for training and information on work protection to improve the quality of</p>	<p>SR 9913.04 – Improved Labour Protection System and Implementation of Labour Protection Management System in Enterprises in the Slovak Republic. Budget (twinning): 1,2 MEUR.</p> <p>SR0110 – Twinning light facility in order to strengthen the institutions and administrative capacity for the full application of the <i>acquis communautaire</i>. Budget: 0,8 MEUR.</p> <p><i>Supplementary:</i></p> <p>Twinning light project to help the Slovak authorities set up the body for the promotion of equal treatment of all persons without discrimination on grounds of race or ethnic origin under Directive 2000/43.</p>	<p>Evaluation of the Labour Inspectorate by the Senior Labour Inspectorates Committee (SLIC) planned for 2002.</p> <p><i>Additional monitoring required:</i></p> <p>Specific monitoring to assess the effectiveness of the enforcement system.</p>
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	<p>basic and further training of labour inspectors and staff at labour inspectorates (+ 20 staff in 2002–2004))</p> <p>-enhance the performance of supervision over health protection at the Ministry of Interior (+3 staff between 2002-2004)</p> <p>– increase of the number of staff at the Chief Mining Office to carry out supervision in mines (+ 2 staff between 2002–2003)</p> <p>– creation of a special department at the State Health Institute for the preparation of legislative amendments harmonised with EU legislation (+ 12 staff between 2002–2004)</p>		
<p><i>Priority 2:</i></p> <p>Complete transposition and ensure implementation of EC legislation in the field of public health; further develop measures in the area of surveillance and control of communicable diseases and health monitoring and information.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations</u></p> <p>No specific commitments.</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>— continue the development of programmes for the protection and monitoring of health according to EU directives in the area of public health (2001–2002)– extend the co-operation of the Slovak Republic with the</p>		

	European Union in the area of studies concerning programmes of fighting against AIDS, drugs, cancer, for the support and monitoring of health as well as the connection with the network for the surveillance and monitoring of communicable diseases within the Community (2001–2002)–draft (Ministry of Health) a system for monitoring of the health in order to acquire data on health and indicators comparable with the health monitoring system in the Communities, which would mainly support the co-operation with the Community network for epidemiological oversight and control of communicable diseases, and report on progress achieved (2001–2002)		
<p><i>Priority 3:</i></p> <p>Continue to support social partners' capacity-building efforts, in particular with a view to their future role in the elaboration and implementation of EU employment and social policy, notably through autonomous bipartite social dialogue.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>No specific commitments.</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Ongoing::</i></p> <p>— increase of staff by 2 persons of the Advisory department for bipartite social dialogue in the MoLSAF (approved in Budget 2002)</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>SK0006.01 – Development of Social Dialogue on the Bipartite Level. Budget: 1 MEUR.</p>	

<p><i>Priority 4:</i></p> <p>Prepare a national strategy, including data collection, with a view to future participation in the European strategy on social inclusion.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>(CONF-SK 66/00)</p> <p>– A „National Programme for the Development of Living Conditions for Citizens with Disability in All Areas of Life“ has been prepared and is under discussion.</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – increase of staff in this field by 5 persons (still to be done) – drafting of the Joint Memorandum on Social Inclusion (September 2002 – September 2003) (still to be done) – preparatory work for future participation in the SILC survey (still to be done) – prepare the National Programme of Fight against Poverty and Social Exclusion through the year 2005 (2003) (still to be done) – prepare the National Programme of Social Protection through the year 2005 (2003) (still to be done) 		
<p><i>Priority 5:</i></p> <p>Further develop and implement a national</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>(CONF-SK 66/00)</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>SR0107.01 – Development of the</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>Follow-up process to</p>

employment strategy in line with the European Employment Strategy.	<p>– ESF: strengthening of the national and local co-ordination and securing effective preparation of programmes, monitoring and control of programme implementation; setting up of an ESF management unit in the first quarter of 2001 (done), including a central payments agency; setting up of necessary institutional structures and the training of human resources for the preparation and implementation of pilot projects</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>- increase of staff in this field at the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family by 6 persons (2002) (approved in Budget 2002) for the Managing Unit and Payment Agency for ESF</p> <p>– implement the Joint Assessment of Employment Policy Priorities (still to be done)</p>	<p>Institutional Framework and Administrative Capacity for Programming and Implementation of Structural Funds. Budget: 3,5 MEUR.</p> <p>SR0107.02 HRD Through Preventive and Individual Active Measures for the Unemployed</p> <p>SK0009.03 Implementation of HRD Strategy at Regional Level</p> <p><i>Supplementary:</i></p> <p>Twinning Light Project on additional administrative capacity building addressing the establishment of management, monitoring (including statistics) and evaluation structures for ESF.</p>	the Joint Assessment Paper of Employment Policy Priorities.
3.14 Energy			
<p>Priority 1:</p> <p>Implement the recommendations contained in the Council report on "Nuclear Safety in the Context of Enlargement" with due regard to the priorities assigned in the report.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>(CONF-SK 86/01 Add.5)</p> <p>In particular, commitments regarding the resources of the Nuclear Regulatory Authority (UJD). The UJD</p>	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>CZ/SK/RA/03: Projects under Phare 1998: assistance to the Nuclear Safety Authorities of Slovakia and the Czech Republic to be planned in 2002</p>	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Peer review under the auspices of the EU Council Working Group on Atomic Questions</p>

	<p>Strategic Capacity Building Plan for 2000-2003, updated every year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - takes into account increasing UJD responsibilities due to new nuclear facilities operation, - defines concrete steps to improve staff qualification, - subject the UJD staff specialised in nuclear safety to knowledge exams. <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><u>(2001 NPAA)</u></p> <p>The UJD will increase its staff by 5 persons in 2002.</p>	Horizontal Programme for Community Support in the field of Nuclear safety for 2001 (Access Project)	
<p>Priority 2:</p> <p>Adopt and implement the decommissioning plan to close the two Bohunice V1 nuclear reactors by 2006 and 2008 respectively.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p><u>(CONF-SK 44/01)</u></p> <p>The Slovak Republic confirms its commitment of 1999 to close two units of V-1 Jaslovské Bohunice nuclear power plant at the latest in 2006 and 2008, respectively</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p>The Bohunice nuclear power plant operator worked out an action plan including a program of employee's stabilisation.</p> <p>Framework Agreement between Slovak Republic and EBRD Relating</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>SR9922 – 1999 Special Programme to Support the Decommissioning of Nuclear Power Plants and Consequential Measures in the Energy Sector – Slovak Republic (10 MEURO)</p> <p>SR0014 – Special Programme to Support the Decommissioning of Nuclear Power Plants and Consequential Measures in the Energy Sector – Slovak Republic – 2000 (20 MEURO)</p> <p>SR0112–Special Programme to Support the Decommissioning of Nuclear Power</p>	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Annual Special Programmes to Support the Decommissioning of Nuclear Power Plants and Consequential Measures in the Energy Sector till 2006. – Slovak Republic</p>

	to the Activities of the Bohunice International Decommissioning Support Fund in Slovakia was signed on 16 November 2001. Contribution Agreements between Contributors and EBRD was signed on 16 November 2001.	Plants and Consequential Measures in the Energy Sector – Slovak Republic – 2001 (25 MEURO)	
<p>Priority 3:</p> <p>Continue to ensure a high level of nuclear safety at the Mochovce nuclear power plant as well as the two Bohunice V2 nuclear reactors and maintain a high level of nuclear safety throughout the decommissioning phases of Units 1 and 2 (V1) of the Bohunice nuclear power plant.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>(CONF-SK 86/01 Add.5)</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p>National Emergency Response Plan in case of radiation accident has been elaborated, approval by the National Emergency Commission for Radiation Accidents expected by end of 2001. The on-site and off-site emergency response and emergency transport planes for existing nuclear installation already exist and are approved by the competent authorities. The planned emergency exercises are regularly performed and assessed.</p>	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Seismic Probabilistic Safety Assessment of the Bohunice V2 Nuclear Power Plant</p> <p>Probabilistic Safety Assessment Level 2 for the Mochovce Nuclear Power Plant-Unit 1</p>	
<p>Priority 4:</p> <p>Continue to prepare for the internal energy market, notably the electricity and gas directives; complete the alignment process, establish an independent transmission system operator (electricity); eliminate remaining price distortions; strengthen the regulator.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>(CONF-SK 44/01):</p> <p>An independent Regulatory Office for energy will be established by 1 January 2002 and is expected to employ 60 people in the first year of operation.</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>SR 9912 – Support for the Ministry of Economy of the SR in Implementation of Comprehensive Energy Policy</p> <p>SR0105 – „Regulatory Authorities, Energy Conservation & Oil Stocks</p>	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Peer reviews on the internal energy market, including monitoring of regulatory mechanisms</p>

	<p><u>Measures for implementation:</u> The Office of Network Regulation of Industry was established on 1 August 2001 by the Law Nr. 276/2001 Coll. on Regulation in Network Industries. The number of staff has reached 35, in the course of 2002 to be further strengthen up to 50.</p> <p>(Transmission System Operator in electricity was established in January 2002, when the Slovak grid system separated from Slovenské elektrárne to independent joint stock company Slovenská elektrizačná prenosová sústava, a.s. – done)</p>	<p>Management</p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Establishment of market operator. Short term and long-term deployment of market operator experts as required to assist ministries and regulatory bodies in implementing the EU's energy market framework.</p> <p>Short term and long-term deployment of experts on the field of evaluation of system services for transmission and distribution of electricity.</p>	<p><i>Additional monitoring required:</i></p> <p>Specific expert missions may be required.</p>
<p>Priority 5:</p> <p>Strengthen the oil stocks body</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations</u></p> <p>(CONF-SK 07/01, addit. info n°1): The law on emergency stocks will authorise the Administration of State Material Reserves to administer and regulate the creation of 90-day stockpiles.</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>The Administration of State Material Reserves increases its staff by 5 persons in 2002</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>SR9912 – Support for the Ministry of Economy of the SR in Implementation of the Comprehensive Energy Policy - € 1.2 million</p> <p>SR0105 – Regulatory Authorities, Energy Conservation & Oil Stocks Management - € 0.8 million</p>	

<p>Priority 6:</p> <p>Further improve energy efficiency, enhance the use of renewable energy sources and strengthen the relevant institutions in this area.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u> no specific commitment</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p>Six Governmental Regulations on Energy Labelling of Household Appliances will be in the force in the 1st half of 2002 .</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>SR 0105 – Regulatory Authorities, Energy Conservation & Oil Stocks Management - € 0.8 million</p>	
<p>3.19 Telecommunications and information technologies</p>			
<p>Complete separation of regulatory and ownership functions</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>(CONF-SK 06/01): In the course of 2001 the Slovak Government will take a decision on the transfer of those shares, which are currently administered by the Ministry of Transport, Post and Telecommunication to another state administrative body</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>This issue is under discussion between relative ministries to achieve separation of regulatory and ownership functions. It was already achieved that NRA will have independent separate budgetary chapter not later than from 2004.</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>SR9913.03: To strengthening the institutional and administrative capacities of the National Regulatory Authority - € 1.5 million</p> <p><i>Supplementary:</i></p> <p>Short term and long term deployment of policy, legal, regulatory and economic experts in the telecommunications field as required to assist ministries and regulatory bodies in implementing the EU's new telecommunications regulatory framework. Twinning to be considered.</p> <p>Training courses relating to policy, legal, regulatory and economic aspects of telecommunication acquis</p>	<p><i>Additional monitoring required:</i></p> <p>Peer reviews to be considered</p>

3.20 Culture and audiovisual policy			
Strengthen the administrative capacity of the Council of Radio and Television Broadcasting.	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>(CONF-SK 46/00):</p> <p>According to the Act on transmission and retransmission, the Council of Radio and Television Broadcasting will have to be financially and in terms of staff strengthened</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>The Council has now 39 staff members.</p>		
3.21 Regional policy and co-ordination of structural instruments			<p>Different monitoring activities are ongoing or planned in the near future, such as bilateral contacts/meetings with regard to the elaboration of the development plan required for the implementation of Structural Funds as well as the monitoring of the implementation of</p>

			pre-accession instruments, including EDIS
<p>Priority 1:</p> <p>Define the bodies in charge of the implementation of Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund, in particular the Managing and Paying authorities; establish a clear division of responsibilities and improve the administrative capacity, in particular in terms of recruitment and training; ensure effective inter-ministerial co-ordination</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>(CONF-SK-92/01)</p> <p>The „Act on the promotion of regional development,, (effective from January 2002) defines terms and responsibilities. As from 2002, it is envisaged a substantial strengthening of staff of the relevant bodies. Currently, inter-ministerial co-ordination is guaranteed through the Government Council for Regional Policy</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (National and regional monitoring committees have been established.) <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of the Management Unit ERDF (possibly for CSF) - Development of the Implementation Agency of Regional Development as the Payment Authority - Set up and strengthen the network of the regional Implementation agencies - Update the regional monitoring 	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>SR0107.01 - Development of the Institutional Framework and Administrative Capacity for Programming and Implementation of Structural Funds - € 3.5 million</p> <p><i>Supplementary:</i></p> <p>Further development of the institutional framework and administrative capacity</p>	<p><i>Additional monitoring required</i></p>

	<p>committees in relation to the role of regional self-governments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthen the capacity of regional self-governments in the field of regional development - Decision to be taken on managing and paying authorities by the Ministerial Council for Regional Policy foreseen on 31 January 2002 and soon later by the government. Ministry of Regional Policy to ensure effective co-ordination and appropriate partnership during the preparation of the National Development Plan. 		
<p>Priority 2:</p> <p>Further develop a coherent development plan as required by the Structural Funds regulation; define the implementation structures of the final plan</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>(CONF-SK-92/01) The National Plan for Regional Development adopted in March 2001 (and presented to the Commission in June 2001) includes seven SOPs and four ROPs. The Implementation structures have been identified. Substantial staff increase is expected in the course of 2002.</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Decision to be taken by Ministerial Council for Regional Policy on reducing the number of operational 		

	<p>programmes from 11 to 7 (1 ROP and 6 SOPs). This decision will also include the managing authorities for each OP. Following these decisions next step is the further developing of the NDP to a format that can be transformed into the CSF.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support the partnership, local programme and initiative actions on local level 		
<p>Priority 3:</p> <p>Set up the required monitoring and evaluation systems for Structural Funds, in particular for ex-ante evaluation and for the collection and processing of the relevant statistical information and indicators</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>(CONF-SK-92/01)</p> <p>The ex-ante evaluation of the NPRD has been carried out in the socio-economic and environmental fields. Full harmonisation of regional statistics is expected to be completed by end 2004, which will serve as a basis for the monitoring and evaluation system.</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Final decision on the creating of overall monitoring system will be taken after the adoption of precise number and structure of ROP, SOPs. Structure of Monitoring committee for each of the Ops is foreseen to be 	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>SR0107.01 - Development of the Institutional Framework and Administrative Capacity for Programming and Implementation of Structural Funds - € 3.5 million (see Priority 1)</p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Strengthening Regional Statistics</p>	<p><i>Additional monitoring required:</i></p> <p>Ex ante evaluation and ongoing monitoring required</p>

	<p>organised in the same or very similar way as the structure of the National Monitoring Committee for NPRD.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To fine-tune the national and regional monitoring committees in order to meet the Structural Funds requirements. - Establishment of the Working Group for elaboration of the monitoring system for carrying out the SOP „Human Resources“. <p>Development of integrated monitoring system of the regional development with following components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Management Information system - GIS for regional statistic support and analyse support - Set up an evaluation system of the regional development - Set up the WEB site of regional development for public information support 		
<p>Priority 4:</p> <p>Align with the specific financial management and control procedures for future Structural and Cohesion Funds under the relevant EC Regulations.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>(CONF-SK-92/01)</p> <p>As regards financial control procedures, the Slovak legislation has been amended in order to align it with relevant EC Regulations</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>SR0109 – Public Internal Financial Control – Reinforcement of the Administrative capacity - € 1 million</p>	<p><i>Additional monitoring required</i></p>

	<i>Planned</i> Set up the payment authority		
<p>Priority 5:</p> <p>Develop the technical preparation of projects eligible to Structural and Cohesion Funds assistance (project pipeline).</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiation:</u></p> <p>No specific commitments</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><u>Ongoing:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of Strategies and partnership on regional and local level - Support of Small scale Economic Infrastructure - Support of project development - Integration of the whole planning system including spatial planning, building procedures supporting foreign and domestic economic investment 	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>SR0107.01 - Development of the Institutional Framework and Administrative Capacity for Programming and Implementation of Structural Funds - € 3.5 million (see Priority 1)</p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Regional Development Grant Scheme – Support to local and social development</p> <p>Support of Small scale Economic Infrastructure</p>	<i>Additional monitoring required</i>
3.22 Environment			
<p>Priority 1</p> <p>Continue integration of environmental protection requirements into the definition and implementation of all other sectoral policies with a view to promoting sustainable development.</p> <p>Priority 2</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)</p> <p>An office for archiving EIA documentation will be established within the Slovak Environmental Agency by 2002 and provision of</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>SR 9911.01: Institutional strengthening and support of approximation and transposition of environmental legislation of the Slovak Republic (water, EMAS, GMO, budget: 1,5 M EURO)</p>	<i>Additional monitoring required</i>

<p>Continue strengthening the administrative, monitoring and enforcement capacity at all levels. Particular attention needs to be paid to strengthening the Environmental Inspectorate and good co-ordination between the Ministries.</p>	<p>information as prescribed by law will be finalized. The Ministry of the Environment will be expanded with 3 employees (1 for 2002 ongoing, 2 for 2003 planned) the Slovak Environmental Agency with 5.</p> <p><i>Ongoing:</i> Twinning project SK0007.01: Implementation of the EIA directive according to EU standards (It is inevitable contribution from PHARE of app. 200 000 EURO for technical equipment of the information system.)</p> <p>Air quality</p> <p>Institutional strengthening <i>Ongoing:</i> As approved in Resolution of the Slovak Government (No. 702 from 18 July 2001), the Ministry of the Environment will be expanded with 2 employees – 2002 (Air quality) , SEI with 2 employees in 2002, (Air quality, Fuel quality, VOC), SHMI with 3 employees in 2002, (Air Quality), Ministry of Economy with 1 employee in 2002 (Fuel quality, VOC).</p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p>	<p>SK0007.01: Implementation of the Environment Impact Assessment directive according to EU standards (Budget: 0,7 M EURO)</p> <p>SK0007.02: Strengthening of the Slovak Environmental Inspectorate (Budget: 0,2 M EURO)</p> <p><i>Planned</i></p> <p>Implementation of the IPPC Directive.</p> <p>Implementation and Enforcement of Council Directive on discharges of dangerous substances into the aquatic environment</p> <p>Implementation and Enforcement of Council Directive on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora and Council Directive on the conservation of wild birds</p>	
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	<p>SEI will be strengthened by 4 people in 2003, 2 people in 2004, SHMI by 2 people in 2003, Ministry of Economy with 1 employee in 2003 and 1 in 2004.</p> <p>Ambient air quality assessment and management (Directive 96/62 and „daughter,, Directives):</p> <p>All four directives will be fully implemented by the end of 2002. Implementation will focus on upgrading of the monitoring network, updating monitoring programme, on programmes for improvement in the ambient air quality and on action plans for zones.</p> <p>By May 2002: Procedures for data handling developed, hardware and software installed at DO and staff trained.</p> <p>By December 2002: Quality Assurance/Quality Control methods introduced and staff trained, Modelling to supplement monitoring updated or introduced, Efficient public information system on air quality implemented Introduction of economic instruments to reduce emissions</p>	
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	<p>(likely intended for NO_x).</p> <p>By December 2003: Monitoring programme updated, Alarm/alert system for SO₂ and NO₂ upgraded, if necessary.</p> <p>By January 2004: Programme for the improvement in the ambient air quality.</p> <p>By December 2004: Action plan for zones introduced for SO₂, PM₁₀, CO.</p> <p>By December 2009: Action plan for zones introduced for NO₂ (Annex II to CONF-SK 57/01).</p> <p>Measures:</p> <p><u>Ongoing project (Slovak):</u> Calibration laboratory for air quality</p> <p><u>Planned project (Slovak):</u> Technical and economic conditions for implementation of the Directive 94/63/EC</p> <p>- <u>Emissions of gaseous and particulate pollutants from internal combustion engines to be installed in non-road mobile machinery (Directive 97/68):</u></p> <p>Full implementation by the end of 2003. Designated the competent authority; Put in place system for</p>		
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	<p>the registration and placing on the market of new engines, Adopt a testing/inspection system to control quality of engine types or families: by 4.12.2003 (Annex III to CONF-SK 57/01)</p> <p>Waste management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plans on the reinforcement of administrative capacity: (CONF-SK 102/01): <p>Ministry of environment: staff increase for 2002: 2, (ongoing). Regional offices, Department of environment: staff increases for 2002: 8, (ongoing) for 2003:8 (planned). District offices, Department of environment: staff increases for 2002: 55, (ongoing) for 2003:24 (planned) Slovak Environmental Inspectorate: staff increase, for 2003:6. (planned) Slovak Environmental Agency: staff increase for 2002: 1 (ongoing) for 2003:2 (planned)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Waste framework (Directive 75/442) and hazardous waste (Directive 91/689): <p>New Waste management plans will be developed by September 2003. (Annexes 4 and 5 to CONF-SK 57/01).</p> <p>WMP of SR were sent in January 2002 to the Slovak Government. WMP of districts and regions as well as of</p>		
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	<p>municipalities and enterprises will be elaborated afterwards in 2002.</p> <p>- Packaging and packaging waste (Directive 94/62): Staff in Competent Authorities in place for implementation of directive by January 2002. Strategy for packaging and packaging waste developed and incorporated in national WMP by January 2003. Communication programmes design and voluntary agreements concluded by October 2003. Data collection system on packaging and packaging waste in place by October 2003. Monitoring of packaging expanded to all packaging by January 2004. Efficient systems for return and collection of used packaging and packaging waste designed and ready for implementation by January 2004 (Annex 6 to CONF-SK 57/01). Recycling fund was established in autumn 2001. Recycling Fund includes all packaging except metal packaging. Act on Package and waste package is in preparation.</p> <p>- Landfill of waste (Directive 99/31): New landfills are classified according to EU requirements;(done) New permitting procedure and technical</p>		
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	<p>guidance documents are developed: July 2001, (done, instead of technical guidance the seminars and training have been realised) District offices make decision on approval of design documents for closure and monitoring of landfills after their closure and on approval of conditioning plans: (December 2002). Strategy for reduction of biodegradable waste going to landfills is developed and include into national WMP; Detailed plans for alternative facilities are developed and include into national WMP: September 2003. Inspections are in compliance with the EU requirements: January 2003 (after issuing new permits) (Annex 7 to CONF-SK 57/01).</p> <p>This Directive was the subject of the twinning project which was completed in 2001- SR 9810.02: Advice on harmonisation of sectoral policy – development of a waste management plan for municipal waste (landfilling of municipal waste)</p> <p>- Disposal of waste oils (Directive 75/439/EEC):</p> <p>Staff of the MoE expanded, strengthened and trained: January 2003. Waste oil strategy elaborated and included in national WMP:</p>		
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	<p>September 2003. Communication strategy designed and implemented: October 2003. Permits of waste oils management facilities reviewed and where necessary revised and modified: All new facilities handling with waste oils have to have permit of DO (submitting till December 2001) and authorization of MoE (since July 2002) For existing – submitting of application up to September 2001 and permit issued since September 2002. Record keeping in line with annexes to the framework directive and other EU requirements: 1 January 2004. Combustion of waste oils no longer permitted: 1 January 2006. (Annex 8 to CONF-SK 57/01).</p> <p>Water quality</p> <p>- Urban waste water treatment (Directive 91/271):</p> <p>Technical and financial programmes developed; Monitoring agencies and SEI trained and equipped: December 2003. Full compliance: December 2015. (CONF-SK 57/01, 98/01). By the end of 2004, 83,07 % of the wastewaters will be treated in line with the Directive, by the end of 2008 already 90,63% and by the end of 2012 97,18 %. (CONF-SK 98/01 and CONF-SK 102/01)</p>		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nitrate pollution from agricultural sources (Directive 91/676) Vulnerable waters identified: December 2002. Monitoring agencies equipped and trained: June 2004. Vulnerable zones designated: by 1 January 2003 and an Action Programme adopted by date of accession. Full compliance: December 2008. (Annex 12 to CONF-SK 57/01). - Drinking water (Directives 80/778 and 98/83): Quality standards adopted: December 2001 (They will be adopted by the Regulation in 1.Q 2002). Hygienic Offices trained and equipped December 2002. (Annex 13 to CONF-SK 57/01) Full compliance for arsenic, antimony and nitrate parameters are scheduled for the end of 2006: the population affected by the derogation to be promptly informed in an appropriate manner. (CONF-SK 102/01) - Discharges of dangerous substances into surface water (Directive 76/464 and „daughter,, Directives 82/176, 83/513, 84/156, 84/491 and 86/280, as amended by 88/374 and 90/415): 		
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	<p>Inventory of pollution sources of List I and II substances completed: December 2001(done). Additional staff at District Offices, Regional Offices, and SEI recruited, trained and equipped: March 2003. All permits revised: July 2003. Programme of pollution reduction developed: December 2003. Reduction plans developed: October 2004. Full technical compliance: December 2006. (Annex 14 to CONF-SK 57/01)</p> <p>a) ongoing activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - By the end of year 2001 REAP project related to implementation of the Directive 91/676/EEC was finished. In the scope of this project the proposal for identification of vulnerable zones in Slovakia has been developed. In 2002 Slovakia will carry out proposal for designation of vulnerable zones. - Regarding to the Directive 98/83/EEC REAP project concerning the implementation of this Directive was developed. The screening monitoring of selected parameters for drinking water, that are not monitored was done. - As approved in Resolution of the Slovak Government (No. 702 from 18 July 2001), the administrative 	
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	<p>capacities will be strengthened in 2002: MoE +3, regional offices +12, Slovak Environmental Inspectorate +6, SHMI +3</p> <p>b) planned activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In 2001 the proposal for Twinning project (Accelerated Phare 2002 Programming) focused on „Implementation and Enforcement of the Directive on discharges of dangerous substances into aquatic environment,, was developed. It is expected that the project will be submitted for opinion to the Management Committee scheduled for 8 March 2002. <p><u>Planned s:</u> Finish the establishment of rescue centres in Slovakia – 2003; Training of customs staff on import and trade controls– 2003.</p> <p>For the Implementation of the Habitats and Birds Directives, the State Nature Conservancy will hire 31 employees in 2002 (approved by the Resolution of the Slovak Government), For the Implementation of the CITES Regulations the Ministry of Environment is expanded with 1 person and the State Nature</p>		
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	<p>Conservancy will be expanded with 1 person in 2002.</p> <p>The State Nature Conservancy will hire 60 employees in 2003 and 45 employees in 2004. for the implementation of Habitats and Birds Directives</p> <p>Industrial pollution control and risk management</p> <p>Institutional strengthening</p> <p><u>Ongoing:</u></p> <p>In 2002, as approved by the Resolution of the Slovak Government, (No. 702 from 18 July 2001), the Ministry of the Environment will be expanded with 6 employees (for IPPC+ Seveso), SEI with 4 (Seveso), Ministry of Economy with 1 employee (LCP, Industrial plants).</p> <p><u>Planned:</u></p> <p>The Ministry of the Environment will be expanded with 5 employees in 2003 (for IPPC), SEI with 3 in 2003 and 2 in 2004 (IPPC) and 2 in 2003, 2 in 2004 (LCP, Industrial plants), SHMI with 3 employees in 2003, 2 in 2004 (IPPC), Ministry of Economy with 1 employee in 2003, 1 in 2004 (LCP, Industrial plants)]</p>		
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	<p>New IPPC Agency will be established with 40 employees [20 people in 2003, 20 in 2004].</p> <p>- <u>Integrated pollution prevention and control (Directive 96/61):</u> Compliance schedule plan for existing facilities is completed: March 2002. The IPPC act enters into force and the IPPC Agency is established: July 2003. Enterprises established after Oct 1999 or which have implemented substantial changes will submit applications: July 2003. The first existing (< 1999) IPPC facilities submit IPPC applications: September 2003. All facilities established after 1999 have a permit with BAT requirements as for new facilities: upon accession The first existing (started before 1999) facilities will be granted a permit: March 2005. Permits are issued to 86 (all 202 boilers) Large Combustion plants, 3 refineries 2 municipal waste incinerators 1 co-incinerator 6-8 hazardous waste incinerators: December 2006. Permits are issued to all large</p>		
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	<p>facilities: October 2007.</p> <p>10 specified installations will achieve compliance between 31 December 2009 and 31 December 2011.CONF-SK 57/01</p> <p><u>Measures:</u></p> <p><u>Ongoing project (Slovak):</u></p> <p>Basis for transposition and implementation of the Directive 96/61/EC</p> <p><u>Planned project:</u></p> <p>Basis for transposition and implementation of the Directive 96/61/EC – next phase (Slovak)</p> <p>Implementation of the IPPC Directive – planned with DEPA</p> <p>- <u>Large combustion plants (Directive 88/609):</u></p> <p>The competent authority has received actions plan included in an IPPC application: December 2004.</p> <p>IPPC permits issued to all LCPs: December 2006. (Annex 16 to CONF-SK 57/01)</p> <p>Align legislation with the Directives 88/609 and 2001/81 by the end of 2003.</p> <p>All existing plants will be in compliance with both directives upon accession.</p> <p>All new plants except for the 3 plants</p>		
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	<p>will meet emission limit values upon accession. 3 new plants will be in full compliance by the end of 2007 (transition period) (CONF-SK 98/01).</p> <p>- <u>Incineration of hazardous waste (Directives 94/67 and 2000/76):</u> The performance and capacity of existing incinerators is assessed: Municipal incinerators: December 2001 (done) Industrial hazardous waste incinerators and Hospital- waste incinerators: May 2002. National Strategy for waste incineration and co-incineration as part of the WMP: September 2003. New incinerators as defined in Directive 200/76 will comply upon accession. All existing incinerators except 11 hospital incinerators and 7 hazardous waste incinerators will comply upon accession. 11 hospital incinerators and 7 hazardous incinerators will comply by the end of 2006.</p> <p><u>Measures planned:</u> Project with DEPA on management of hazardous waste, one part is devoted to incineration of hazardous waste.</p>		
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	<p>The output will be Strategy of incineration of hazardous waste, project is planned to start in 2002.</p> <p>- <u>Emissions of volatile organic compounds due to the use of organic solvents in certain activities and installations (Directive 99/13):</u></p> <p>New project concerning the affected facilities will be finalised by the end of 2002 (including compliance status). Guidelines for District Offices (DO) prepared: June 2003. Training of DO completed: January 2004. First permit applications with action plans submitted to DO: January 2004. Last permit applications with action plans submitted to DO: December 2005. Issuing of permits finalised: October 2007. (Annex 18 to CONF-SK 57/01). New installations in compliance upon accession while existing installations will comply by 31 October 2007. (CONF-SK 98/01).</p> <p><u>Measures:</u></p> <p><u>Ongoing:</u></p> <p>Basis for transposition and implementation of the Directive 1999/13/EC</p>	
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	<p><u>Planned project (Slovak):</u> Technical and economic conditions for implementation of the Directive 1999/13/EC</p> <p>Chemicals and genetically modified organisms</p> <p>- Administrative and institutional organisation, enforcement: Communication and information programmes developed: June 2002. Guidance for all actors of established procedures are issued; Monitoring and inspection procedures are in place; EC Information and reporting systems are developed: December 2003. (Annex 19 to CONF-SK 57/01).</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><u>Planned:</u></p> <p>The Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic will be expanded by 1 employee in 2002.</p> <p><u>Planned project:</u> „Institutional strengthening of the Department of Chemical Safety at the Slovak Environmental Agency (SEA) in Bratislava,, for supporting</p>	
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	<p>performance of state administration in accordance with enforcement of the Act on Chemical Substances and Chemical Preparations and preparing Act on the Prevention of Major Industrial Accidents concerning the certain dangerous chemicals.</p> <p><u>GMO:</u> Commitments: The Act on GMO will come into force in 2002; administrative capacities will be prepared together.</p> <p><u>Measures:</u> The Act on GMO is expected to come into force on 1 April 2002. To this date will be prepared staff in new Bio safety department in MoE (8 people) and Slovak Inspection (7 people) (approved by the Resolution of the Slovak Government No. 702 from 18 July 2001)</p> <p><u>Ongoing projects:</u> Twinning project - SR 9911.01: Institutional strengthening and support of approximation and transposition of the Slovak environmental legislation. Project with Dutch Government– „Implementation of bio safety frameworks in pre-accession countries of Central and Eastern Europe", which</p>		
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	is funded by the Matra programme		
3.23 Consumers and health protection Complete the establishment of market surveillance and enforcement authorities <i>(see also Chapter 1 – Free movement of goods)</i>	<u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u> Slovakia will extend the competence of the Trade Inspectorate in order to enforce the acquis (CONF-SK 35/00) Measures for implementation: <i>Ongoing:</i> Competence of the Slovak Trade Inspection - as an integrated market surveillance authority - is set under the new Act on State Internal Market Surveillance in Consumer Protection Matters entering into force in April 2002.	<i>Ongoing</i> Project SR 0104.01 - Support of Market Surveillance System in Consumer- and Health Protection - € 2.2 million	
3.24 Cooperation in the fields of justice and home affairs			
Priority 1: Implement the Schengen Action Plan.	<u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u> No specific commitments <u>Measures for implementation:</u> <i>Ongoing:</i> Inter-ministerial working group for implementation of Schengen acquis	<i>Ongoing:</i> SR9908.02 – Programme on justice and home affairs - € 5 million <i>Supplementary:</i> Assistance for the preparation for Schengen.	<i>Ongoing:</i> JHA expert mission in February 2001

	<p>has been established on 15 June 2001. The working group consists of fifteen application groups focused on concrete fields within the Schengen acquis. The application groups have elaborated their timetables of measures by the end of February 2002.</p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Technical project of establishing Schengen information system will be completed by the end of June 2002. Breakdown of financial needs required for implementation of Schengen acquis will be completed by the end of March 2002.</p>		
<p>Priority 2:</p> <p>Ensure alignment of data protection practices.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>Additional staff to work on tasks concerning Police Force information systems will be hired (CONF-SK 87/01).</p> <p>In order to deal with classified information, staff will be transferred from the Ministry of Interior to the National Security Office (11 police officer posts and 34 civil posts) (CONF-SK 87/01).</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p>	<p><i>Supplementary:</i></p> <p>Support to the office of the data protection Commissioner</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>JHA expert mission in February 2001</p> <p><i>Additional monitoring required:</i></p> <p>Need for enhanced monitoring</p>

	(As of 1 November 2001, the National Security Office has been established to protect classified information. As part of this change staff has been transferred from the Ministry of the Interior to the National Security Office.)		
<p>Priority 3:</p> <p>Continue to upgrade and modernise the infrastructure at the EU's future external borders; upgrade law enforcement bodies, in particular with regard to border control and illegal immigration; continue preparation for future participation in the Schengen Information System by developing national databases and registers; accelerate progressive alignment of visa legislation and practice.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>Responsibilities for border control have been transferred to the Border and Aliens Police of the Police Force Presidium from 1 April 2001 (CONF-SK 87/01).</p> <p>Transfer of conscripts on the Ukrainian border to the border with Hungary (CONF-SK 87/01). An Illegal Migration Combat National Unit is to be established within the Border and Aliens Police from 1 January 2002 (CONF-SK 87/01).</p> <p>Complete material and technical equipment of the units on the state border (CONF-SK 87/01). In 2001, the government allocated 37.4 million to strengthen the material and technical equipment for state border protection (motor vehicles, communications, operational and computer technology)</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>SR9808 – assistance, supply of technical equipment for the checking hall at the Vyšné Nemecké border control post (on the Slovak-Ukrainian border) - € 5 million</p> <p><i>Supplementary:</i></p> <p>Setting up training activities related to the operation of the National Schengen Information System and the SIRENE (Information System and the Supplementary Information Request at National Data Entry) for staff at central level and at the border.</p>	<p><i>Additional monitoring required:</i></p> <p>Monitoring will be especially necessary on the functioning of the new structure of the border and aliens police.</p>

	<p>(CONF-SK 87/01).</p> <p>Preparation for Schengen Information System is included in the Schengen Action Plan (CONF-SK 88/01).</p> <p>Completion of the system of on-line connections between the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and several diplomatic and consular representations (CONF-SK 87/01).</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>With the aim to modernise and adequately equip the future EU external border, Slovakia approved 77.400.000 SKK for 2000; 37.400.000 SKK for 2001 and 50.000.000 SKK for 2002. These financial means have been and will be used for the upgrade of the information systems, special telecommunication technology and motor vehicles.</p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Complex program focused on completing technical protection of the state border meeting the Schengen</p>		
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	standards Establishment of Central visa office from 1 April 2002		
<p>Priority 4:</p> <p>Establish an independent body as the second instance in an asylum procedure.</p>	<p><u>Commitments made in negotiations:</u></p> <p>The independent appeal instance for asylum seekers to be set up following adoption of a new refugee law before the end of 2002 (CONF-SK 87/01).</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>The new refugee act is in the legislative proceeding.</p> <p>Participation in training activities concerning the Dublin Convention. Setting up the Department of Documentation and Foreign Co-operation</p> <p><u>Planned:</u></p> <p>Building of the Dublin Convention working station.</p>	<p><i>Supplementary:</i></p> <p>Assistance on the implementation of the Dublin Convention.</p>	
<p>Priority 5:</p> <p>Elaborate and implement an integrated and comprehensive strategy for the fight against organised crime.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>No specific commitments</p>		<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>JHA expert mission of February 2001</p>

	<u>Measures for implementation:</u> <u>Planned:</u> The Ministry of Interior will update integrated and comprehensive strategy for the fight against organised crime. by 1 April 2002.		
Priority 6: Continue the fight against trafficking in human beings and drug trafficking; strengthen the capacity to deal with money laundering; ensure the implementation of a national anti-drugs programme.	<u>Commitments made in negotiations:</u> The new Law on the Stay of Foreigners should enter into force on 1 January 2002 and provide for legislative, institutional and material support, among others directed towards the combat of trafficking in human beings (CONF-SK 87/01). Slovakia has applied for membership to the EMCDDA (CONF-SK 87/01). The Central Node of the Drug Information System was to be established and gradually staffed within the Office of Government from 1 September 2001. (CONF-SK 87/01). The Act on Customs Administration (entry into force 1 July 2001) authorises customs officers to use operational-surveillance methods and specialised technical means for the	<u>Ongoing:</u> 2000 Multidisciplinary and multi-sectoral approach to combat drug addiction and drug trafficking SK0008.01 Support to the implementation of the National Programme of Fight against Corruption - € 5.5 million SK0008.02 Fight Against Drugs - € 1 million	<u>Ongoing:</u> JHA expert mission of February 2001

	<p>detection of illicit trade in drugs (CONF-SK 87/01).</p> <p>An Illegal Migration Combat National Unit is to be established within the Border and Aliens Police from 1 January 2002 (CONF-SK 87/01).</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>The National Unit for the fight against illegal migration is to be established from 1 April 2002</p> <p>Ministry of Interior will establish special Unit for the combat of trafficking in human beings and sexual exploitation. (1.4.2002)</p> <p>Ministry of Interior in co-operation with Ministry of Finance and with Ministry of Justice will strengthen the capacity to deal with money laundering and provide settlement of all recommendations FATF (1.4.2002)</p> <p>The Financial Intelligence Unite will be strengthened in the course of 2002-2003 by 12 additional staff.</p>		
Priority 7:	<u>Commitments made in negotiations:</u>		<i>Ongoing:</i>

Take the necessary steps in order to ensure the implementation of the Community instruments in the area of judicial co-operation in civil matters.	<p>Slovakia still has reservations with regard to the extradition acquis that are not compatible (DCP Dec 2001).</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p>Slovakia has no legal problems in withdrawing the reservation on Art. 21 Convention if it is proved necessary.</p>		JHA expert mission of February 2001
<p>Priority 8:</p> <p>Ensure that the pre-requirements for the conclusion of a co-operation with Europol are met.</p>	<p><u>Commitments made in negotiations:</u></p> <p>Complete establishment of the National Europol Centre by 30 June 2001. (CONF-SK23/01).</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>Secondment of liaison officer to the Embassy in The Hague who is expected to deal with the matters concerning Europol activities.</p> <p>Slovak National Bureau of Europol offered co-operation to Europol via the Bureau for co-operation with the third countries.</p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Conclude negotiations with Europol in 2002</p>	<p><u>Ongoing:</u></p> <p>SR9908.02 Strengthening the Ministry of Interior (strengthening of police co-operation) - € 5 million</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>JHA expert mission of February 2001</p>

<p>Priority 9:</p> <p>Ensure better co-ordination between services and agencies involved in the area of justice and home affairs.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u> National Plan for the Adoption of the Acquis (NPAA), National Programme of Fight Against Corruption, Government Degree No. 1154/201, item C.3, CONF-SK-87-01</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>Within the framework of police co-operation aimed at facilitating communication among the authorities active in criminal proceedings, preparations are underway to implement a 2000 PHARE Project – Assistance in the Implementation of the National Programme of Fight Against Corruption. The objective of the project is to set up an information system for electronic communication among those services of the Ministry of Interior that are active in the prevention and detection of corruption; the system will also be linked with the General Prosecutor's Office and the Ministry of Justice.</p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Slovakia will put in place a system of highly efficient electronic links</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>SK0008.01 Support to the implementation of the National Programme of Fight against Corruption - € 5.5 million</p>	<p><i>Additional monitoring required:</i></p> <p>Need for further monitoring.</p>
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	<p>between specialised operational-investigative services and the authorities responsible for investigation in order to make the process of detecting, documenting and evaluating criminal offences smooth and efficient. The new communication system will also ensure integration of these services in terms of their co-operation, interaction and exchange of information in detecting corruption. In order to facilitate subsequent procedures before the court, the system of electronic communication will be also extended to other authorities active in criminal proceedings.</p>		
3.25 Customs union			
<p>Priority 1:</p> <p>In need of particularly urgent action: accelerate the implementation of the IT strategy of the Slovak customs administration. Develop IT systems allowing for the exchange of computerised data between the EC and Slovakia. Provide for sufficient IT staff in the Slovak Customs Administration.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u> Development of the national transit information system according to NCTS specifications. CONF-SK 25/01</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u> The Customs Administration has been developing a new national-transit information system (TIS) according to NCTS specifications. First Stage – Rollout of the application at the level of the regional customs offices and the Customs Directorate was</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>SR0104.02 EC systems' national information management development - € 1.5 million Project SR9913.01 – Integrated Customs Strategy and Customs Information System (CIS) Development and Implementation (€ 3.1 million)</p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Information system for administrative components promoting the rule of law</p>	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Expert mission in June 2002</p> <p>Interconnectivity monitoring in March 2002</p>

	<p>accomplished at the end of year 2001. Second Stage – Implementation of the new transit application at local level, is planned for 2002. Start of the operation of TIS, fulfilling the NCTS requirements, is planned for the first quarter of 2003.</p> <p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u> The Configuration Management of Reference Tables (CMR) application is the basis of development of the interface of existing customs information system with the systems of the European Commission (TARIC, EBTI, SEED, Quota, etc.). CONF-SK 25/01</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u> A contract is in preparation to extend the functions of the application, which is presently in the pilot implementing stage at the Customs Directorate.</p> <p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 75 % of all export and import declarations should be processed by the ASYCUDA++ system by the end of 2002. CONF-SK 25/01 - The new financial information system should be operational by end of 2002. 		
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	CONF-SK 25/01		
<p>Priority 2:</p> <p>Ensure sufficient resource allocation for the collection of excise duties by the customs administration; ensure proper management of all aspects of Community policies managed by the customs authorities, and in particular with respect to the Common Agricultural Policy.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>Specialised legislation, the Act on Financial Control and internal audit is at present in preparation in accordance with requirements of the European Union to reinforce control of economic management of the financial resources acquired from the European Union and from the national budget in accordance with objective needs in the field of financial control. This act, expected to enter into effect as from 1 January 2002 will become the basis for establishment of a unit for internal audit, reinforcing the functions of financial control. (CONF- SK 25/01)</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p>In accordance with the Act No. 502/2001 Col. on Financial Control and internal audit that entered into force from 1 January 2002 the new unit for internal audit was established within the Ministry of Finance. The department of internal control of the Ministry of finance and the Department of the internal financial control within the Division of control of the Customs Directorate are</p>		<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Peer review scheduled for April 2002</p>

	<p>responsible for applying the provisions set up by the new Act.</p> <p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u> The Customs Directorate established a department of indirect taxes in response to the gradual transition of administration of the excise duty on mineral oils from tax authorities to customs authorities. The draft Act on the excise duty on mineral oils is now discussed in the second reading in Parliament. The new law shall introduce certain new provisions not yet established, e.g. tax Warehouse and tax suspension. In the next years the Customs Administration would take over the administration also of the excise duties on alcohol, beer, wine, tobacco and tobacco products. (CONF- SK 25/01)</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u> At the time being there is a special Department of indirect taxes established at the central level within the Customs Directorate that is responsible for administration of excise duty on mineral oils. At regional level departments of indirect taxes within all regional customs houses were established from 1 June 2001. There were also created mobile</p>		
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	<p>control units responsible for the tax surveillance of the price privilege mineral oil. A new computerized system for the administration of indirect taxes has been developed and the registration of subjects of charge was done during the second term of 2001. In accordance with the Act No. 239/2001 Col. on excise duty on mineral oil the customs administration has become the only administrator of this excise from 1 January 2002. Accordingly the staff of the customs administration has been strengthen in 2002 by 108 persons.</p> <p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u> Within the Customs Directorate a new unit is being established in the field of Common Agricultural Policy to provide for relevant tasks, including export compensation payments. (CONF- SK 25/01)</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u> A working group was created within the Customs Directorate with the task to prepare the conception of customs administration for implementing relevant provision of CAP and to analyse the cost for establishment of the agency for export compensation payments that would possibly work</p>		
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	within the customs administration and the MF SR.		
<p>Priority 3:</p> <p>Establish all the necessary specialised organisational units foreseen in the Act on state administration bodies in the field of customs.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>(CONF- SK 25/01) The Customs Directorate according to this Act may establish specialised organisational units, such as the Customs Criminal Office, the Customs Laboratory, the Customs Institute and the Customs Administration Health Service.</p> <p><u>Measures to implement:</u></p> <p>The Act No. 240/2001 Col. on the state administration bodies in the field of customs created legislative facilities for establishing new specialised organisational units.</p> <p>In this respect the Customs Criminal Office should be established by the end of 2002.</p> <p>The Customs Laboratory is at the time being subordinated to the Customs Law Division of the Customs Directorate. By the end of June 2002 it should finished its pre-accreditation stage by applying for obtaining the accreditation.</p>		<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Peer review scheduled for April 2002</p>
<p>Priority 4:</p> <p>Continue efforts to strengthen customs ethics, combat fraud and corruption, fight against</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>According to the Act on the state administration bodies in the field of</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>Project SR 9913.01 Comprehensive Border Strategy - (€ 0,45 million out of</p>	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Peer review scheduled for April</p>

economic crime and organised crime	<p>customs, the Customs Directorate may establish the Customs Criminal Office as a organisational part of the customs administration as a specialised body executing activities of the Customs Administration in the field of fight against customs frauds. The objective is to increase the efficiency of the customs administration activities against economic crime. (CONF- SK 25/01)</p> <p><u>Measures to implement:</u> In compliance with the Act No. 240/2001 Col. on the state administration bodies in the field of customs there is envisaged by the end of 2002 to set up the Customs Criminal Office as a specialised organisational unit by the approval of the advisory committee of the Director general. At the time being the establishment depends on obtaining sufficient premises.</p>	<p>€ 3.1 million of the whole project</p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Information system for administrative components promoting the rule of law</p>	2002
3.28 Financial control			
<p>Priority 1:</p> <p>In need of particularly urgent action: Complete implementing legislation for internal financial control.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u> The full compliance of Public Internal Financial System with the acquis will be reached upon the adoption of the implementing regulations (CONF-SK 73/01).</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>Project SR 0109 Public Internal Financial Control. - € 1 million</p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Sustainable Institutional Training</p>	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Peer Review of the Public Internal Financial Control System in the Ministry of Finance by the end of 2002.</p>

	<p>Public Notice on the internal audit performance details, on the content of auditor's activity annual report: 1 April 2002</p> <p>Manuals for the execution of different types of internal audit: 31 December 2002.</p>	Facilities for financial controllers and internal auditors	Monitoring Mission of the Commission's services is planned for the second half of 2002 (by SIGMA).
<p>Priority 2:</p> <p>Ensure proper functioning of the central unit for co-ordination and harmonisation of the methodology for financial management and control and internal audit throughout the government; establish internal audit units in the spending centers; introduce functional independence for internal auditors; ensure the operational capacity of the organisations mentioned.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>Central Harmonising Unit has been established in the Ministry of Finance in October 2001 to harmonise the methodology for both financial control and internal audit. This Unit reports directly to the State Secretary in the Ministry of Finance. Functionally independent Internal Audit Unit has been established in the Ministry of Finance. It reports directly to the Minister of Finance. The overall establishment of the internal audit units in the budget spending centres is foreseen as of January 2002.</p> <p>A total of 61 new posts will be created in 2002 for Public Internal Financial Control System, (CONF-SK 97/01)</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p>Staff reinforcement of the Central Harmonising Unit responsible for the co-ordination of Public Internal Financial Control of 8 employees.</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>SR0109 Public Internal Financial Control – Reinforcement of the Administrative Capacity</p> <p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Sustainable Institutional Training</p> <p>Facilities for financial controllers and internal auditors</p>	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Peer Review of the Public Internal Financial Control System and Commission's monitoring mission as mentioned above.</p>

	<p>Staffing as well as training of staff of the Central Harmonising Unit and of staff dealing with financial management of structural funds, controllers and internal auditors at the Ministry of Finance and in the line ministries and spending centres.</p> <p>Training of trainers of the Methodology of the Internal Audit Department in the Ministry of Finance and training of internal auditors from line ministries</p> <p><u>Planned:</u> Establishment of on-line information connecting system among Ministry of Finance, Financial Control Administrations and relevant ministries: September 2002</p>		
<p>Priority 3:</p> <p>Enhance the overall operational capacity as well as the independent status of the Supreme Audit Office; ensure the compliance with the International Organisation of Supreme Auditing Institutions standards.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>The amendment to the Act on the Supreme Audit Office (SAO) has been adopted. The amendment expands the scope of the SAO competences and strengthens its financial independence. The activities of the SAO are largely compatible with the INTOSAI standards. Operational Manuals for the implementation of these standards as well as strategic development plan for the SAO are currently under preparation. Independent external assessment of the SAO is currently</p>	<p><i>Supplementary:</i></p> <p>Further support to the SAO</p>	<p><i>Ongoing:</i></p> <p>Independent external assessment (Peer Review) of the SAO has recently been performed, report SIGMA/OECD from Peer Review has to be elaborated and discussed in March 2002.</p>

	<p>ongoing. The EU invites Slovakia to provide the EU with both the results of this assessment as well as the strategic development plan. (CONF-SK 111/01)</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u> Department for audit of EU Funds and Study Centre for auditors established in 2001, Strategic Plan, new internal prescriptions and audit manual are in elaboration, all administrative processes will be terminated after the Peer Review by SIGMA is completed (i.e. by the 2nd half 2002.)</p>		
<p>Priority 4:</p> <p>Strengthen the fight against fraud.</p>	<p>Twinning project on cooperation with the National Audit Office from Great Britain, Spain and Portugal aimed notably at training activities is being prepared by the Supreme Audit Office of the SR.</p> <p>Project with SIGMA is also prepared pursuant to a Peer Review.</p>		
<p>Priority 5:</p> <p>Designate a suitable central contact point for the protection of the Communities' financial interests and effectively start co-operating with OLAF through this contact point.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>The single contact point for the co-operation with OLAF has been designated on 28 November 2001 and will be operational as of 1 January 2002. CONF-SK 104/01)</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p>OLAF will be closely associated with</p>	<p><i>Planned:</i></p> <p>Multi-country programme. Participation in this programme will be important in ensuring Slovakia's due preparation in this area.</p>	<p><i>Additional monitoring required:</i></p> <p>Additional close monitoring to assess progress in implementing commitments in this area is required</p>

	the further development of a of a functionally independent anti-fraud co-ordinating service or structure, responsible for the co-ordination of all activities related to the protection of the Communities' financial interests.		
<p>Priority 6:</p> <p>Step up efforts to ensure the correct use, control, monitoring and evaluation of EC pre-accession funding as a key indicator of Slovakia's ability to implement the financial control acquis.</p>	<p><u>Commitments taken in negotiations:</u></p> <p>The EU invites Slovakia to keep the EU informed about further progress in preparing for PIFC implementation on EU pre-accession and future funding, more in particular the development of audit trails. The EU underlines that the correct use, control, monitoring and evaluation of EU funding will constitute a key indicator of Slovakia's ability to implement the financial control „acquis,,. (Source: DCP, Commission's document of 3.12.2001 currently under discussion in the Council)</p> <p><u>Measures for implementation:</u></p> <p>Procedures for Financial Control of the Structural Funds.</p> <p>Continuation in activities resulting from the conception of Public Internal Financial Control and realisation of Twinning Project SR 01/FI/02 Public Internal Financial Control according to its intents.</p>	<p><u>Planned:</u></p> <p>Development of IT system for the National Fund to operationally manage and control the flows of pre-accession funds</p>	<p><i>Additional monitoring required:</i></p> <p>Above mentioned Peer Review and Monitoring Mission.</p>

